
American Women Missionaries and Pioneers Collection



Part 1: Missionaries

The Irene Forsythe Hanson Papers, 1921-1980

Series I

Correspondence
(Incoming and outgoing intermixed)

Folder Description:

Correspondence,
April 14, 1929–June 2, 1929

Box Number:

1

Folder Number:

22

Sunday. April 14, 1929
Home - for 3 days
Singing, 3 starting

Dearest Loved Ones;

I'm shivering again as I change to my foreign clothes in town for a few days. Singing is cooler than the country because of the dampness. It really doesn't get hot here till after June. Mummie, your good letters were waiting me here - 2 + then 2 more came, I'll answer them first. So glad you got to see Leo - Is he still at Corvallis? + so glad you could see Bernie + Bud + visit with the Van Cleaves. My! that check just took my breath! Before they call I will answer + while they are speaking I will hear . . . abundantly above all you can ask or think! I just procured the master. The blind boy had gone on to school - on foot I'd get help - tho they said he could be a charity pupil they wrote they were very short of funds - so I send 25 Mex - or 12 1/2 gold for him of their

3] in it but it will either make or break him - by prayer - I do hope it will make him, you spoke of the daffodils - lovely! The cherry blossoms were making the country lovely before we left & there are many here - & not yet fully in bloom. I love them. It was nice you had a visit with aunt Callie & Glenn & all. Aunt Allie's well.

Mother's prayers are being answered but we do pray more - such need & often such spiritual blindness & such heart-breaking needs & results of sin; Oh, I need to pray more - & to live closer too I know. We just need a "pentecost" in outpouring of Holy Spirit. Many churches are small & scattered & get cold & indifferent as at home!! Mother, precious, you are so sweet to want to take the burden of the reports & mailing, well I may just let you for it surely is a load and I had to go so many times to the printer and then spend so much time on it one way or another. You love the mailing lists I sent before - tho that isn't complete at all. I had hoped to get a report of this trip written but may let it go & include these two months coming in one. You are so sweet to offer to do it for me. It has been almost a month since I wrote you & there is so much to tell

2] check I'm not sure yet about the rest but The Lord will lead. I am so grateful for it. I was in the country & not able to send ^{to} him leaving etc but Mother led the way for him & a Christian who was going took him to the school!

That was wonderful to hear again the sermon which led Daddy to the Mother! I did not know the date before - I've written it down so I'll be able to remember it. How precious Daddy is with Him now. We know where he is now! Helen W. will get 3 months vacation - give her about 5 weeks at home. She said she'll surely go to see you, my darling mother, your letters are so sweet & mean so much to me! It is so wonderful of you to write so much & so often; Berrie wrote her letter came yesterday - was so glad to hear & the letter from Lula was so good. I was so excited over the sale of the house & then at bottom of page she it is off. Well, dear I'll be glad when you don't have the responsibility of it. Glad you got a good renter! Cool in the navy! my! I am surprised - wonder if I'll get out here so many boys were here last summer - Oh! dear - I can't say I'm glad tho don't say so. The boy in it said it was next to impossible to live straight

The victrola like Lydia's - Decca, an English orthophonic is \$50.00. Max in Shanghai. What ^{one you} wrote about was it orthophonic? I think if I get one I'd rather have that kind. I can get records here - don't know either about the duty. Friday nite was at Erva's for supper and the music was so good. They let me bring it home with me + I did so enjoy it! Was so hungry for music. Then Mrs. Davies as a special favor let me curl up in her big chair where she couldn't see me + played for me. They have a Steinway piano + Mrs. D. is an artist! They say she used to play lots in concerts but now she doesn't - make her nervous etc - but I did so appreciate her playing for me!! I don't know about buying one I was going to - but now that I'm settled here I'll have to begin on furniture + etc. I think they want me to fix up a living room downstairs now etc. The little school has moved out so just Miss Sue + I are here now.

Just back from the Chandler's for a

5) waffle supper. It was nice - but I ate too much! Enjoyed visit with them muchly! Almost nine o'clock + my letter is thus delayed - tomorrow so full I don't know whether I'll make it all or not but will try. Today I have read a work on Life of Christ. I found I was mentally hungry as I was music hungry so had a nice rest. + read. This p.m. walked by the Japanese temple where the cherry blossoms are so lovely. They are not set out but are a vision of loveliness! Just a few warm sunny days will bring them out. Sermon on the Good Shepherd at church was good! I seem to be going backward in my account! Yesterday wrote letters about twenty notes + business letters that needed my attention + saw Mrs. D. + Mrs. Orpach over the anal's work + saw their darling little baby batted. She is such a jewel + I've wanted so long to see her batted - Then last nite Erva, Julia + Lydia came here for supper - The days have been full but restful. These girls are so nice. I just love them! Nice to see them again. Friday I came home - Early in a.m. had my first wheelbarrow ride + it was funny. A large wheel in the

4) the station. They are such lovely folks. I guess now I'd better go back to account for my intervening months. First I'll say I've I go again for a month - in again for a few days & go again if all works well. Then I'll stay in, as wheat harvest time no one can work & then it's too hot - so soon there long delays will be over. My these two last months are important.

At Ho Si Chuang we got all packed to leave & it rained so the man wouldn't go - he feared a hard rain on the road so we waited - Bright & early Wed. A.M. we were off for a 60 li ride in a miniature passenger schooner - I couldn't help calling it that, a springless ^{covered} cart on two wheels. The man walked beside the donkey & we three rode in the cart. The rain had settled the dust & washed the spring which was a fresh & green & such a relief to the drab landscape. Spring was in the air for sun & birds singing made it a lovely ride. Dear old Mrs. Lou cried when I left & the whole ~~infinitely~~ ^{family} came out to see the "aunt", "great aunt", "sister-in-law" or cousin - (whatever it was I was to that person) off. I hated to leave them I loved it there. They were so nice to me. I loved the Bible class so

center with a space on each side for things, a man pulled it & a boy pulled it - so we went our sweating way for 35 li (the cook on one side & me on the other) It wasn't at all uncomfy & we made good time. Just outside of Tsimo we saw numbers of soldiers - but all peaceful - they were manœuvring - & having pictures taken. We got a bus to our surprise & delight in Tsimo. We had feared we'd have a 60 li borrow ride but that would have gotten me home late at night - so it was with joy I piled on the bus - the teacher had returned a couple days earlier, a dear Mrs. Wang invited on fixing me hot water to drink & I appreciated it as it happened there was none near to buy. She is Miss Chau's sister, & so nice. The anal had cleaned the house & it was a joy!! Miss Lin fixed me some hot milk & I had a bath - - - that bath - what a bath!! Then I crawled into bed & what a luxury of a nap I had. Mrs. W. came over to ask me to come to supper but I had it in bed & just rested. Mrs. W. was so nice to me. When she left she kissed me & welcomed me to

8] Stopped at a nice inn where the prop.
got all the other out + I rested a bit but
while we had a cup of tea the place filled
with folks + I talked to them. It was
such a joy - a big village + no witness
in it at all - We went on sometimes
walking to rest other times riding.
I caused much excitement as the
bystanders argued about what I was.
One place we passed a group who
said - "She's Chinese", "No, she's Japanese"
+ another said She's German + the
argument waxed hotter + hotter -
The last I heard was - "No, no, she's a
foreigner"! It settled the dispute!!
About 3 P.M. we reached a small
wallless village + went to the
church. found Mr. Chandler there
in bed (stomach upset). I surely praise
the Master for the good health he's
given me all thru these most strenuous
weeks! The two Bible women had it
come. They were two new ones I was to
meet they come from Tienghien + are very
fine - well, that nite a Mr. Li, Mr. C +
I had street meeting + announced our
arrival. Next a.m. after a church
service Mr. C. left + we were expecting
the girls hourly! They didn't come for
five days at last. I gave up hope
of their coming - but was carrying
on as best we could. Fortunately the

9] Teacher was there, I studied some
between talking to the women who
came in + teaching the groups of
children songs + the gospel story -
Morning a group + p.m. would come
another one - till those five
days I believe almost all those village
kiddies learned a very simple, but
complete Bible stories. - old ladies
too. I loved it. These days by my-
self maybe for others weren't so be-
nificial but I learned many lessons.
May come fast to use - + before
they'd realize it they'd be singing
softly that chorus + I just know
the seed planted will bring fruit.
I was so interested a number of
kiddies who ran from ^{me} the first
day, second day came in, +
before long were singing + were
were friends! We went on like
this several days + still they didn't
come - We had meetings at nite -
Teacher preached - Mostly men
came - a crowd to see + look so
we had pretty good ^{nite} services all the
time. I started the Bible class +
went visiting in the homes with one
of the Christians. Only two families
there of Christians + they'd gotten
rather cold + indifferent. Then one day

13] Then all bow to the ground three times is the least but it may be four times or 12 times. After this the tray of food, bowls of vegetables, rice, and big round loaves of steam bread are carried back to be eaten by the family.

Sorry but its 11:30 + I must
put away things again + be
off so - excuse abrupt
close -
Sats of love -
Irene.

10] a cart came + the Bible come come
theyd been delayed 3 days at the
class office + not knowing I was wait-
ing just stayed. When they came they
helped - in fact did, almost all.
We didnt have regular classes but
for three or four days a.m. + p.m.
groups of women came. If they didnt
we went to home. Bernays guitar
has surely been a joy + blessing.
Its getting a bit battle worn tho.
We were there at Wa Li when they
celebrated the ching ming festival.
I saw the ceremony of worship at
the ancestors groves.
Mon. am waiting in drug stores they fix up
my list of country medicines so I'll do
one more word. Am testing what station
membership means as today tho I had my
day full we've had to spend about 5 hrs.
a station meeting. - my first one - I
had some serious problems to consider
and it means much - these decisions
am happy to have a share in them - but
as we said - Who is sufficient for these
things + we all said our sufficiency is
of God. without details will you please
pray especially about the principal of
the girls high school - that God will
work His will! Your letter is suffering
as a result + am not sure what I'll
be able to do tonight in regard to writing
as much to do + I'm to go to family
for supper. It takes time but releases the
rest of that much.

Well, I'm glad about one problem

11.1 salutation - Mrs. Luskbury whom I love
is to come - & live in the lower floor of
the house & maybe I'll board with her or
go on as we have with my cooks - It will
solve a lot of problems & will let the
amae go as she isn't just the best suited
for Miss Lin's needs when I'm gone. She will
come soon so when I return there be a family.
She has 4 kiddies & I know it will be happy with
there. You'll be glad too, I know. Shall be there
until the Coonrod's come again & I move some-
place else. I hope still bring furniture - so I
won't have to get! The Master looks just so
wonderfully. I am so happy we have such a
saviour. This time we go to the country in
a more upset section but we still go in
his protecting care.

I was telling you at my digression of the
worship at the graves at this festival. The plateau
of the landscape at this ^{numerous groups of the}
region is broken by the "cone of the" sloped
graves which make these cities of the dead all
over China. That day the living went to do
honors & worship the spirits of the departed.
As far as we could see these cities of the
departed ones were filled with people early
in the morning & the clear Spring air was
heavy with the fragrance of the incense.
We went near to see. The father followed by all
the sons, nephews etc dressed in best cleanest
clothes comes carrying a large wooden tray of
food. The next son or nephew has a basket
of paper, incense sticks and a little wine
pat and water pat. The father places the
tray on a little stone altar before the grave &
then burns the paper & lights three incense
sticks which he places upright in the
mound. The smoke is to ascend to heaven to
invite the spirit to return. Water is then
poured on the ground to go to call that part
of the person which belongs to the flesh -
to come to partake of the prepared foods.

Hoo mi, April 16, 1929

my dearest ones;

I just must write a bit daily or I'll not be able ever to catch up with news. This is today. We're in a great state of preparation + almost ready when news came that in Kame the soldiers were fighting + we'd better not go. However after a row-wow Mr. C. + D. both decided we could come on to the depot at least + then if it were unsafe return to Singtoo. I was out at Julia's for supper - + had to do the packing of new medicines after the session at 8:30 P.M. and things, fix up last things, gain. We got the seven o'clock train + I arranged myself in my new Chinese clothes - Spring ones - Since it's warmer I do not need my fur long coat + the long garments aren't best for the country so now wear a shirt (black silk very strong + durable doesn't hold dust) - short bloused Chinese trousers, ^{TOOK} long because it isn't convenient to wear a pelliccoat

I felt queer in them at first but
they're more suitable - more like the
country folks wear, we got on
the train feeling a bit of excitement
not knowing what was ahead.
I purposely didn't take Mr. Cameron
down cover etc - Made my
will & signed it. That sounds
serious eh? not so much as you
think - but just in case of need
it is less complicating - we
took 3 hrs. & got off in perfectly
peaceful atmosphere - The soldiers
in city the night before several
hundred had fought among them-
selves for a few hours & fired
guns for about 5 minutes, but that
is over. The soldiers are still in city.
They've been ^(bandits) looting a lot & because
of that it's a big compound of
five courtyards, ^{with several accommodations} big church, has
become the refuge of about
400 folks from city. This is just
outside the city. We haven't gone
in & probably won't for a while,

April 28, 1929
 Sun - Saturday weeks.

will attempt to write these two weeks
 news. We are still in Kasumi & will
 be as planned for two more weeks.
 The city is still upset & the
 upsets & worries from day to day
 and with it our number of refugees.

The first day we came ^{on the} earlier
 train and then Miss Tan & Miss Ives came
 after noon. Went out to meet
 them & we didn't leave the com-
 pound again till yesterday. Could
 have got safety side but just
 busy & we stay in it's better.

After Miss Tan & Miss Ives came
 we proceeded to fix a "home" since
 Elder Shaw said we'd not go to the
 country as first planned but we'd
 stay here in Kasumi city & work
 among this great crowd of refugees.
 The former pastor's study is our
 room. We feel it quite palatial
 has cement floor & screens &
 with aid a curtain we have
 a bed room & a kitchen. The

#1 first morning at 6 o'clock prayer
meeting I was surprised at the
great crowd. This is a big church
made of brick, with glass windows
has an organ too much to my
great joy. It's been months since
I've had a chance to play & you
know how expert I am at any
organ - anyway I've enjoyed this
heaps - last nite. & this A.M. had
a regular concert first all
by myself but by end I had
a crowd. We began with a
week of services. Church members
here aren't very many maybe
twenty or more. They formerly had
a women's Bible school here so there
all the buildings but now it
isn't. There are forty or fifty boys
in school here. Besides this our
full church is refugees. Wonder-
ful - the state of man is made
to praise Him for sure. Because
of the trouble they've come to

5) find peace + protection for the physical being but are lacking of ~~the~~ real peace + safety in Him. Ordinarily one could not get so many here - nothing to do but eat + sleep so we've a great opportunity to have our classes + meetings. There are more folks at night because some return home in day time but come back here to sleep. Women naturally make up the larger number of. There are young wives whose husbands aren't at home who fear, who come here with children + mother-in-law. There are Christians from the country sections besides those of the city. We went the first night with a Bible woman who works here all the time to see the groups. In small rooms which might accommodate two very well were eighteen or dozen folks - in one large room fifty or sixty were on the floor on

6) mats. Then after church service
the first nite - we were startled
by sudden pushing of benches.
It was case of first come first
to have a bench to sleep on
- otherwise the choice of the
floor. That space accommodates
a couple hundred men + boys.
The nite before we came the
courtyard outside was full.
This gives a little idea of our
"parish". They have meals twice
a day + we have to arrange
meeting hours accordingly. It
is difficult as there are very
many little chimneys ^{deep} or
small mud stoves with one big iron
deep skillet in the top. + it makes
them have to wait + wait. They
are patient over it tho. Oh, just
now a lady sent in the nicest
hot "hriao to fu" - a delicious
dish made of beans ground in a
two stone mill with various
kinds of ground vegetable, maybe
cabbage, or young willow leaves

7) or dried carrot or turnip tops. Another
body sent in a kind of bread
they make in this section about
15" in diameter - no leaven but
cooked on a hot skillet - I'm going
to put in a piece of it just for
fun. The red is made of Kaoliang
flour, you can steam it + maybe
eat it. You won't appreciate it
I fear. You need nice hot tasty
meat + vegetables to put in it +
wrap it up + eat that way - just
for fun I'll put in some,

The first week we had 3 meetings a
day. 6:30 prayer meeting 10:30-12
Service - 5-7 Service + then a group
came to sing after that, almost
every meeting a hundred at least.
This Monday we divided into
classes. Miss Jan has Bible
class of Phil. + Rev. of 30 or 30
and Miss Huo the non-christian
^{of from 20-49-60.} groups. I have a class in
3rd singing for church members
besides my medical + my own
study - This time I'm carrying

of a bit less & studying more. I
try to go to the Bible classes too.
Truly I feel I am a most fortunate
person. It is the sweet provision
of the Master, to be able to live
here with just the Chinese, speak-
ing nothing else, to have such
a fine teacher, & the opportunity
to learn & work with these very fine
Bible women; to share in it all
& teach too. These are precious
weeks. about two more here &
then four with Miss C. & Wang
& then I can't come to the country.
I hate to think of it! Naturally,
since I'm not in Tsingtau I don't
have the contacts there & I just
love to be here - where there
is such a need & appreciation
of every friendliness, & where
almost hourly someone comes
in "Please, help me" - maybe
it's to cure for eyes, or a bail or
any of the great variety of
ailments that I have in my
little dispensary.

9. I've thanked the master time &
again for the few hours of precious
instruction Dr. Chalfant gave me
& the convenient little medicine
chest, a present from my teacher,
and for the gracious gift of
god in healing remedies. Here
my first patient was so specta-
clar that I've had a real reputa-
tion! It never ceases to amuse
me tho! This girl had ^{an} "empitigo"
scale fully $\frac{1}{2}$ thick in places &
thinner in other covering her whole
nose & cheeks. In a few days it
was almost cleared up & all
just vanished! Then last Sunday
a little girl bumped into her
sister who was carrying a pan
of boiling water & burned &
blistered her whole face &
neck, terribly. I put on the tannic
acid which Dr. C. recommended so
highly - this was the first time I'd
used it on so large a surface &
today I looked at her face almost
well & no scars. It is wonderful
truly. Eyes, ~~are~~ as usual my

10) daily routine. There not so many
as at other places but the cases that
have come are more severe + I'm
surely grateful to be able to help a
bit. Yesterday they called me for
a little girl maybe 3 - niece of the
Bible woman here. Tossing wildly
in fever + breathing hard. Case of
tonsillitis after measles - anyway
tonsils huge + adenoids probably -
About all I could do seemed of
no avail, too late. About 9:30 she
wanted her new shoes + new clothes +
about 10 - died. She always sang +
was so happy. The father doesn't
believe yet. Pray for him. I still
believe my little med. case is the
Master's leading + He surely does
bless it. Without doubt we get
more contacts with it. Tho I guess
converts from healing are not
any more numerous than when the
multitudes followed Christ for
physical relief. His work on can't
tell for sure. It is like the test -
sowing the seed + the Spirit must
do the rest. It surely gives us a
chance to try to show a wee bit

!!! of Christ's love,

Yipid we just enjoyed to know the eagerness of some of these refugees in study. Sometimes the glory of sharing in such work with Him just overwhelms me. There is a family, two brother's wives & daughters - just study all the time & sing before it is light they begin & late at night they are still singing & going over the day's work. Yesterday we saw a new pair of shoes they'd made - for the older daughter & made larger to gradually unbind her feet! They are sincere & it's such a joy. There are a number of this kind. We only ask the Holy Spirit to do His own work & work in their hearts. Wish all of the refugees were as earnest, but people are some world over - some too busy with cares of world etc. - but truly thru all of the groups there is a wonderful spirit.

I have had joy of leading three big church services, & one prayer meeting. I am so grateful ^{TOKYO} for the increasing liberty in use of this fascinating

12] bewitching tongue! I am so glad to be able to witness its love & power. One day just after the Southern magistrate had come the soldiers looted near this lady's home (the one I mentioned) & I was struck with the contrast. For all she knew they soon would be in hers but she sat peacefully here with the group & sang. Such a type of the matchless peace He gives. Many who ^{the} came here to live said they believed "God here would protect" - How wonderfully He does. We've slept every night as at home.

The new Southern representative came to Singtao taking oath of office the day before I left. All was as peaceful as could be - He took his office with only police in attendance. No southern soldiers there yet. Japanese troops will gradually leave. They escorted the new magistrate here but these soldiers were here already & the Southern man has none so so far hasn't exerted much power. We sincerely hope that

13] soon these bandit nests on the sides of the railroad will be cleared. —

^{No.} Yesterday P.M. our first free day we went to call at the Swedish mission here. met Mrs. Seander — there are two girls there whom I did not see. They are on opposite sides of city. I have a large compound a church + school, + residences. They too are "full up" with refugees. Mrs. Seander was very cordial + gracious. ^{P.M. for coffee} + invited me to go on Tues, ^{note for supper,} + they bring me home in the car. Guess it will be all right to go. They have a beautiful home — [not that it is unusually fine but ^{it.} just appealed to me]. Two children at home in Sweden in school.

On the way we passed a temple which was cared for by women as priests. We went in — an old lady over 80 years admitted us + not ^{TO DO} clearly understanding lighted the censor of oil + laid out

14/ sticks of incense for us to burn before
the huge idol — a ^{real} gold covered wood-
en idol, the daughter of a king
who by holy "sitting" & suppression
of all desire became a god —
(a thousand armed god)
She had twenty arms, was
seated on a lotus flower, at the
side very a number of gods & at
each side of the courtyard were
large buildings with idols in
them. Women - priests (her hair
was close cropped) in china are
rare. She said her students were
out begging as crops were bad
& they had no food, said temple had
no land etc - but later we
learned they have a lost year
because they do have money
bandits robbed them - so this
time the several students have
gone away to escape trouble.
There was a wee little girl
maybe 3 or 4 years in the court-
yard who she said was to be
probably some one who to store up merit so gave the little girl
her student - priest. The grounds
& temple were so clean - best
I kept place I've seen.

15] We asked her whether her heart was at peace & she said - "where is there peace?" - I just fear hell. Said for ^{no.} six generations they had served the temple - but when asked what benefit she said "none." That she was a sinner & she had no hope. However when we told me of the way of peace etc. - she just plainly didn't care to hear & kept answering hopelessly! We wondered afterward how much was her real heart's feeling! We knew at least she had not found peace. Her face plainly showed that! We left her sorry for the hardness of her heart & with a prayer that even tho' this late the Spirit might break her heart's hardness.

- another interruption - a baby whale badly emptying sores. - I almost refused to touch it. - but have done it & now very "smelly" with Syral I continue to write.

Two letters have come here. feel quite in style - mail delivered at the

16] Miss Fan who is here with me is the niece of my "Chinese niang" - Chinese adopted mother. She calls me "worthy aunt" can you imagine it? Since Miss H. is her adopted sister I am aunt to both! It is funny. They are so nice & I am surely happy to be with them. Sat. of last week I took cold, worst I've had in years & the way they cared for me was too sweet! They were lovely! & so thoughtful. As a result of their care I was soon over it & now am well entirely - tho I'm sure had it not been for them it would have been a longer siege. They know I'm writing & they both asked to be remembered to their "great Aunt." When they came from Ho Si Chuang - Old Mrs. Fan wanted them to bring her big mirror to me. It almost shocked it. It is a big one maybe 4 feet by 2 1/2 feet & is her most precious possession! She just insisted they bring it to me. She said she loves the mirror but

17] loves me more than the mirror.
Can you imagine! Bless her
heart - ^{no.} says she wants to give
a few acres of land but since
it's all divided ^{with} children
she wants me to have the mirror.
They didn't bring it so - well you
can imagine out in country traveling
with that big a mirror! I feel
I can't accept it & they say I
just must accept it! Mrs. Jan
told them to tell me to come
to get it. It is sweet!

Too bad Clyde had to pay the note, that
is true tho but for Clyde he wouldn't have
loaned it, Is your money matter, eh?
I am sure if it isn't I can let you
have some! Please tell me! That
is fine there were so many to go into
the church! - to be baptized they are
real "born-again ones". Later!

Your Apr. 3 letter came today. Nice you
had such a nice Easter service. Mrs. Jan
has just gone ^{out} with those in next room
to have worship before we go to bed,
I remember Mr. Torbett. Thank them for
kind remembrance!

Mumma, precious don't you feel
badly about writing short letters.

18] They are just wonderful letters to me
+ I'm so glad to get them even if
short that's no matter - to know
you're well + all. It is not easy
I know, honey mine, to always get
letters in + on time please don't
worry about it. I fear again I've
missed mother's day - I haven't
the slightest idea ^{when it is}
~~but expect~~ it is over, ^{or will be when you} + again ^{this}
not remembered but precious
mother mine, I love you so dearly,
+ will never be able to say
what is in my heart concerning
you + all your love to me!

May God richly bless + keep
you + give you His strength
and radiance + joy, my dearest
one. Be careful + take care of
yourself. I thank God you
are well! Most lovingly,

Irene

At Home

Friday.

May 24, 1929

No.

Dearest One:

at last I think I can get
a letter off to you! I never
can be sure about it but
at present there seem a minimum
of interruptions likely -
I meant to get at this earlier
but - this is coming reason
& yesterday Mrs. Chandler said
if I'd get the job, sugar etc
should have her cook put up
a few cherries for me - I forgot
about pits & taking time so
I got them - 12 marons here are
\$5.50 - (2.50 gold) - so after
with breakfast the girl who
is doing some sewing for me
cook & I & even teacher came
& took a pan to pit - so
they're over now - but my
letter delayed some - again.
I came home on Monday night
late after another 6 weeks
in the country - a bit
weary this time so all I

2) report for these days is the necessary fog of house care + the usual fog ends which have to be covered for when I get in. I think this time I was tired to my bones - Tues. I slept late but spent most of day at dentist's getting 3 teeth in shape. Wednesday worked with teacher over some songs + etc for country, + P. M. rested + wrote some letters. Yesterday was the first nice hot sunny day we'd had since I came - the rest were all foggy so I arose with that old run to get things out. sunned all my winter clothes, beat rug, my fur Chinese garment + cleaned generally washed my hair, besides engineering the cook + an extra boy for the day to prepare [I'm out #2 to check with the plumber] for guests. She the delegates from each station out in the country are here to meet to make out budgets..

3] its according to the newspaper
which gives the Chinese more power
in deciding matters. There were
~~several~~ I know + who have been
~~so~~ nice to me out in the country.
So I didn't especially want to
become of no use — I asked
them to dinner, ~~but~~ of times
foreigners are accused of accept-
ing their country in the country
when they come in to the city
to have the foreigner turn them
a cold shoulder — I expect it
is often more imagined than real
but even so I try to do especial-
ly for those that come in, I
love to. It isn't just because
of what I've just said. Elder
Huich at Pei Sing just did
all possible for me when I
was there + I just love to
return a bit — it's only a bit.
Then there was Old Rev. Han
about 80 — but spry + so
nice. I just love him!
Elder Shan from Kaomi where
we've just been, Pei Sing of Nan
Pei Sing, my teacher, + Rev +
Mrs. Chandler ^{TOKYO} whom I've been
wanting to invite for so long

4] with Miss Liu + I made mine -
again stretching my housekeeping
-table is biggest problem now
as I got a few more bowls &
chopsticks (lovely green ones)
We put two tables together
& matted the cloth you sent
was just what I needed
to stretch out mine & make
that long enough! Used paper
napkins because of the
shortness of time in which to
laundry the other before I
go again for 3 weeks in the
country. The cook did make
the nicest food, nicer than
usual & I loved it the
way they enjoyed the food & it
was such fun! I am so glad
I have a place I can entertain
my friends - especially those
who come in this way. It was
ten o'clock when I got to bed.
There was a glorious moon
& I sat out in the warm
moonlight a long time - just
thinking. I sent a lot of
love by that old moon & I

I hope I'll deliver it even as
I write to my precious little
mother. Strange how moonlight
brings memories. - I expect it
is because after things one thinks
of maybe happened on moon-
light nights & because that
lovely weird light is more
conducive to sentiment than
a black night. I thought of
the blessings & the glory of this
year & how happy I have
been & how much the Master
has given me in blessings but
felt I'd returned so little
to Him, after all - our love
to him at its highest is cold,
our hearts at their tenderest
are hard, and we in our
most appreciative mood are
ungrateful. There is something
too about this ~~now~~-christian
atmosphere which burdens
one - we must keep close
to His softening love to
not grow hard, & still
if we attempt in our sentiment
tality to carry ^{TOKYO} all these burdens
we break. The happy

by mean is to be found by
a constant nearness to him -
in ~~a~~ ^{add to it} great passion for souls
but, the ability to cast all
the burdens on Him!!

Oh to be that, to be a
reasonable, servant to glorify
Him. It is so easy to wish for
self glory + to love the praise
of men - often to let that
satisfy one instead of the commu-
ion with him. The joy He
has given this year I just
thank Him for - + the rare
privileges - of living with
the Chinese so much, of having
such a consecrated teacher,
for the opportunity of going
with these four splendid
Bible women & for the great
peace He has given you
mumil dear + patient in
the intervals of no letters!
Dorothy, I just am sorry it
has been hard but like
you sweet one not to
complain but I am sorry,
its had to be so! as I look

7] back I just don't see how I
could have done differently -
but I could have mailed cards
I'm ^{so} sorry I didn't think of that -
it's that I've had no opportunity
for a letter!

I'll answer your letters first,
have three here, one found me
out in the country but two
came just as I returned. Apr. 9, 15, 24

Honey, I don't believe it would
pay to send the piano. I may
be able to store one next year if
I have an accessible room -
besides I don't know where I'll
live. That hasn't been settled -
& I'm in the country so much.
that it would be of little use -
The cost of shipping put in a
portable vic. would be for
more satisfying & suitable to
my wandering mode of life.

Bless aunt Callie, thank her
for the ^{to} & I wrote her last
time I was in. She seemed to
feel I'd sure get ^{the letter} you addressed
& stamped - as if a charm were
in the sender! She's had a letter

8] from me now, I'll use the money somehow. I have plenty of places to use it. The money from the Bethel church I've decided on - at this last place there was a most wonderful girl - so consecrated & spirit filled for 3 yrs. been praying to go to Bible - total \$60 Mex - will pay her away \$30 gold for a year at Tenglis it's the strong fundamental school & but not far from there so I told her I'd give her the \$60, ^{this doesn't count for her} my teacher too wants to go & I'd love to see him go. Selfishly I don't see how I'd manage without him but of course that isn't to be thought of. I'll be \$40 left of that money for him - & I'll hope maybe more will come to help him & the blind boy. When we know of the modernism & all we feel like helping these fine ones go to the fundamental school. I shall write Bethel church soon.

Good for Earl, I sincerely hope they'll send him to school - I'd hate to see him come out here for

9] ~~example~~, Some of the ships are
in + a few boys went up to the
last summer community house
and there's nothing there this year
+ won't be. It's a crime - nothing
good for them to do here!

Glad twins have a little use of
their Chinese things. - Some mission-
rice you saw Miss Hatch. I'd
love to see her. I'll always
remember the way she took exer-
cises in the A.M. + one day she
caught me ~~imitating her~~ ^{not in fact} - I
expect what she said then that
she hoped I'd go as a missionary
had its effect.

No, mumsie Lony, I feel too it.
isn't time for you to come. I live
too upset + irregular a life + ^{it would}
too lovely for you + not fair
to ask it. Even the days I'm
home are a hectic rush so -
I couldn't think of it. I don't
need anything that I can think
of from home, maybe a bright
sport necktie to wear with those
white suits - a summer Elite.
Can't think of anything. I'm
all fixed ^{TOKYO} thank you. Will

10] need a couple new ^{long} woollen
suits for next winter, but that
is too early now to speak of -
I hope you can have them made
but will use many kiddies & they
are planning to come home Canad-
ian Rocky Mt, that I doubt
it seriously. Give her my love

Glad Uncle Alva is better -
Aunt Glennie has had sorrow
too. Mr. Conradt in whose
house I live ^{we} just got ^a letter
telling of the death of his
mother, I'd seen her too, was
it not nice!

If Mr. Torbett is in earnest about
helping me - he could send
me some for my future preacher!
This is just by way of informa-
tion, so if you have a chance
to express it you'll know. I
appreciate their prayers! Oh!
how we need them!!

How does it happen taxes are
less? in Wacallum?

Mumie dear, I fear I wrote
a very poor letter - I surely
did not mean to leave you!

11) feel that I'm bearing such
burdens & hardships - my!! we
who go now go in luxury to
the ^{no.} early days when they were
not even allowed to use water
from wells, nor buy food,
nor have a place to live beside
having awful persecutions. We
go to groups of believers who
are so nice to us & we have a
house & I have the cooks to
make it easier & why I do
not suffer nor do I think of
them as hardships. Many things
are just a lark, or an amusing
adventure & if I can't class
them as that - they are done
for His sake - & after all the
joy of going & glory of walking
& working with Him, & being
able to help some in a little
way to show forth His love
& perchance to win some for
Him - all these are so
great that the others just
melt away. I've had a cold

12) sponge each a.m. & I get
enough good food - & only bitter
once by "China's millions"
& have nice warm clothes
& now some nice coal ones,
what do I lack! I truly
believe to a certain point
"things" are necessities but
beyond that point do they
not make us slaves to them!
after all contentment comes
from within & is not wholly
dependent on outward
circumstances. I surely did
not mean to give idea that
I was suffering hardship. The
constant call & many meetings
& study & then (K'an ping) 看病
See, sick
is taxing physically ^{also} because
we really live ^(one Chinese + one foreign) two lives -
& adjustment is a daily
necessity. But tho I've had a
few colds & some weariness
who hasn't? so those do not
count! I'm just universally
blessed! so dear don't worry
about it - I come home & do

by sponge each m. & I get
enough good food - & only bitten
once by "China's millions"
+ have nice warm clothes
+ now some nice coal fires,
what do I lack! I truly
believe to a certain point
"things" are necessities but
beyond that point do they
not make us slaves to them!
after all contentment comes
from within & is not wholly
dependent on outward
circumstances. I surely did
not mean to give idea that
I was suffering hardship. The
constant call + many meetings
+ study + then (K'an ping) 看病
See the sick
is taxing physically ^{also} because
we really live ^(one Chinese + one foreign) two lives -
& adjustment is a daily
necessity. But tho I've had a
few colds + some weariness
who hasn't?! so those do not
count! I'm just unusually
blessed! so dear don't worry
about it - I come home + do

13) rest & relax & have a bath
tub & lights & have been
feasting on strawberries &
^{no.} good things. This time I'll
go & take more eatables not
depending on markets because
as its hot, meat spoils etc.
We've had gorgeous radishes
& lettuce (I wash in potassium
permanganate). So just be
"easy in your mind" as the Scots
say - I'm all right.

Plans seem settled for a
vacation of 4 weeks at Tai
An Shan - China's sacred
mountain - I'll write more
of this later however!

I'll write another report I
think after this next trip which
will cover these months rather
hurriedly. I have a few pictures
I think will add to its interest,
will put in the Yev. I think I
said let the beachgo! ^{TOKYO} Glad all
like them, No matter your heads

14] the blue one blue agate - the
white jade rings are mongolian
women's ear rings. - just happened
to find the note on which I
wrote what she told me when
I bought them.

Mother! I'm hapless. I laughed
at the funny little policeman
he came all right & so did
a lot of others but I'm just
dense - you see I thought the
fact of his coming to protect
me in bandit region very
fitting & appropriate - but
didn't tumble that Ray had
sent him as my "intended" since
I've never aspired as high as
a policeman it didn't penetrate.

Sorry, Ray I fear you'll have to
laugh your jokes! knowing you
I'll admit I should have suspected
you'd send me a man knowing
you've tried valiantly to
get me one! Well, cheer up
I'll have not to be so dense
again!

15] A rumor came this a.m. that
we're not to go out on Monday
because of fighting + that Mrs.
C. + ^{Mo.} W. will be in soon. I
rather doubt it but will
see. I feel we should go on.
Just as we did at Kaomicity.
I haven't written anything
about the last three weeks
at Kaomi + The Wang City
but now as I have already
filled the envelope + am
a bit weary for a nap. I'll
get this off without further
delay + write that later.
I don't want mummie precious
to have to wait longer. It
is already too long!

So I'll close with just heaps
of love to all + just think
it's just 2 yrs. more + I'll
be seeing you. Doesn't the
time just sail by!
Daddy Si has had 2 birthdays

in glory & we must rejoice
with him. Maybe the Master
will come soon & he'll come
with him to get us all!
Oh that will be glory!!

Going to Erva's tonite for
supper. They do their own
cooking now this is they
have a coalie to prepare
vegetables & wash dishes
but they cook & love
it so. I after think
it would be fun too
but as yet I'm awfully
happy to have been using
my nice cooks.

Bye dearest -

Love, Love & Love
Warren & Della will soon
be there. Take them to
Crater Lake. Love Irene

13ai Yang Road
Tsingtao, Shantung
June 2, 1929

No.
15 Secret Loved Ones!

Well, had my dinner out
on the upper porch overlooking
the magnificent harbor with
the lights of city below growing
more bright as the sunset
faded & darkness settled -
It's just dark now 8 o'clock.
It was the moment a "lonely"
supper I've had since I've
been in China - just a passing
mood - caused by that awful
impertinence which a house
has after guests go. I had a
nice piece of devil's cake &
strawberries for dessert &
by the time I got to them I was
restored to my usual state of
mind. I love all my folks
as ever for now - the key kid
for the cooks etc & I can now
"visit" with my darling folks
who are so far & yet ever
near by loving thoughts &
prayers.
I must account for the sudden

TOKYO

feeling of ^{not felt before} loneliness, ~~that~~ I felt
in an ordinarily empty house,
Yesterday a.m. the cook went
early to fruit market + got
13 catties of strawberries for
me to do my season's canning
doesn't that sound "housewife"
We stemmed them + began
to can + I ate breakfast in
between stages - Have 4
quarts of berries + 1 qt of juice.
As I was doing the last can
in came Miss Hsu + Miss Tan
from Ksami, I was regled
to see them. They are just sweet
dears! So we visited + I
didn't want them to go so
insisted they stay over today.
Then Miss C. + W. + another
friend whom I knew last
spring at Ta Hsin Tan was
here, for dinner after church.
Seemed like a real Sunday
dinner as I helped the
cook with it - fixing
cherries, + table etc. It's a

³ pretty big job - on Sundays I
don't like to have a lot of
folks because of liking to
let him have a little rest too.
It was such fun to have them
here + I still appreciate the
freedom of my own rooms
to be able to ask guests at
will! - I went to teach S.S.
class + church ^{when I} came back
they were gone. Mumsie, you
feel sorry for me in the
country. I feel "sorry for me"
in town. Truly these days I wish
have been far harder than
being in country - no folks
coming for help + having to
be a foreigner etc! + just
studying. My salvation has
been a wonderful Chinese
Bible discussion class every
nite, + fact that I'm trying
to get off another exam +
this part is so hard - even in
the old literary style in which

4 | a long sentence maybe said
in 4 or 5 characters. This week
beside the evening class I've
put about 4 or 5 hrs a day
on that, its the famous
"Three Principles" by Sun Yat
Sen - the leader of Revolu-
tion - whose untiring efforts
have been the stimulus in
founding ^{the} Republic. His remain
just this week have been taken
to be buried in great pomp &
honor at Nanking from outside
Peking. Schools have had holi-
days - folks have worn a
black arm band & had a
series of meetings in his memory.
Since I've been reading his book
in a simple form it makes these
events all the more of interest.
As I said this rush has saved
my life! figuratively, I've 2 mo.
more till Aug vacation, & I'll
just perish if I stay in town.
I've got to get to the country.
I told Mr. Davies if I didn't

I get away soon I'd put on my
Chinese clothes & sit by the
roadside with old ladies we
see, or right on main streets
of the city. He laughed & said
all right - do it! We have to
wait till the wheat harvest
is over & then I'll go with Miss
Fan back to my Chinese home
& we'll go from there to a
real pioneer place. One Christian
& all persecute her. Then tho
it's July & hot. I'll stay out
a couple weeks then ^{more} with Miss
C. & W. How hope of getting out
& I'm glad! If my work were
here it would be different -
We were discussing one's
impressions of places & how
one person's acct. may vary
from another. & teacher said
you & the Nanking folks have
two different stories to tell.
They had persecution but they
treat you as a goddess
in the country. ^{TOKYO} That's a
bit strong & very polite

but it surely is true that they treat me royally. + still its not merely that I want that that I want to go. I love it + I do believe its where He wants me. - so that is enough!

Miss C. + Wang had an experience just 2 weeks ago! Of our first plans had been carried out I'd have been in it too + its well I wasn't - just its leading. There is a bandit leader Sui Wei Chi who is the most cruel + fearless + powerful of all. The tales they tell, missionaries of his deeds make ~~me~~ think of what the beast in Rev. who come out of the pit to destroy the earth ^{like} are like.

Miss C. + W. were at this place living with a widow. Soldiers of this bandits men they later [knew] first came + one turned all their things upside down + + told them not to leave but stay there. later another came + put his pistol on the table supposing to stay.

7]. They decided to go to see the Elder (even then thought they were ~~regular~~ ^{no.} soldiers) when they left he called & told them not to leave that they were bandits. They replied they'd not go (+ they didn't expect to go). Outside they met 1st soldier who told them a certain street had no soldiers. They went by it to Elder's & found his place full, all busy preparing food for them. When they told him they were bandits - he said "you go at once." They only had one short garment + trousers no skirts + no money - but went on the way a soldier stopped them searched them & said they couldn't get away as ~~with~~ big crowd of bandits were just entering city - They went on - Miss C. took off her watch + put in back the corner of which she let hang loosely in her hand + he didn't see it. They avoided these soldiers by walking stooped down

8) around a ^{patch of} wheat - then
on + on 6 miles to a village
where there was a Christian
They stayed there that night +
+ borrowed money to get on home.
In ^{less than} half an hr. they'd not have
gotten out, They said it was
wonderful the way the master
led them out! It was nothing
less than a miracle, because it
was that Sui bandit's men -
They said 30 people on a cart
being carried for ransom,
They said fortunately I went
with them because this man
wouldn't have feared to take
a foreigner but thought
one good loot, Well I'm
sure had I been there I'd
have had the same loving
care of the father that they
did, my the ravages he causes -
his methods exceed all brutality
charged against the Germans
in World War,
We had quite excitement
getting all the story - They

I came in before I went out on the Monday as I wrote.

No. This week after 5 o'clock I have had such fun in the yard - watering flowers + cultivating 6 little grape vines. They are responding so well its fun! + the roses Mrs. Coonrodt has in the back are lovely! Mother I have a fellow feeling for the "back-tax". Flowers are so cheap here to buy. I got a beautiful ^{blooming} rose for 20¢ Mex. will plant it out in yard now.

Again my furniture movers - Miss C. + W. will be back + need their chairs + table - I was just pondering what I'd do -- when Dr. Scott asked me to store + use for them six weeks till their house at the Hub is done a dresser + two big overstuffed chairs + a set of nine ^{TOKYO} red chairs + a seat. Once more I'm dressed

10] all up gay! — haven't used
the downstairs tho — just put
the reed furniture there — I can't
be bothered moving + besides it's
cozy + nice up here + it's so big
+ barny downstairs!

Seems to me this week I've
just had a round of repairs —
honestly I've begun to think this
is equal to the one horse shay —
I hope I get out tho before
any more things go back. now
in a.m. have to have the kitchen
stone pipe tended to — it's
one smoking awful mess!!

Wait I love next year not
having to do that kind of
thing all the time — It's fun
anyway — (for a year) —

Thank you dear for picture of
Rosenburg! I remember it pretty
well from our auto trips — remember
note we slept under the bridge
in that auto camp? Glad you had
a nice picnic up the River. Sweet
of you to think of me! Honey mine,
I enjoy Mrs. Aschcraft's Poetic

III) author — Ray — you're
become a ^{Protestant} Methodist to eat a
chicken ^{no.} head to feet! That was
good for sure!

Last night on way to glass
at a street intersection of groups
of people were burning paper
& on the ground a child's garment.
Miss Jan said, the child at home
is ill & they believe his spirit
is gone so to recapture it they
must burn paper at a cross
street because they don't
know whether its gone North, East,
South or West. They take the
garment to recapture the spirit.

They said in Kaomi in the
temples which we visited the Southern
Buddhists wrecked nearly all the
idols. The old woman priest
was quite upset. The point
is to break superstition. I wonder
if its going to help any to
destroy what religion they have
& faith to restrain evil without
giving the true — These methods
can't take real faith out of
hearts nor will ^{TOKYO} they convert
one to believe in Christ. They say

12) people still go to worship
the wicked idol. Mother Mr.
Combs sent a Dr. I should like
reach you in time - anyway
could order one of those small
 $\frac{1}{2}$ gal. galvanized ice cream freezers
from Montgomery Ward. \$1.1
believe & let them mail it.
Eve says they are so expensive
here.

Yes, a note from the Board told
me Portland had found a Portland
girl. They took me only till they
could find a local girl - I knew
long ago that - Then a note
from the office with official
notice. That is nice - here.
after all Mrs. Digging gets
will go to them, it's nice to
belong! I was so amused
that the P. C. U. was to study
me this month! Better find
a better subject than I!
well, I hope they'll learn
quicker than I to yield to
the Master's will!

Mother I laughed about
your saying - I am very glad

13) my hair wasn't combed out
straight - Miss Heo's been combing
it & I'm sure if it could be
^{No.} straight it would have been -
but cheer up its as curly as
ever - But I do wear those
awful braids - only under a
skirt !!!

That was nice you talked to the
juniors. I know it was good -
matter, why should that please
you - you who have written
epistles to Byersvillians & made
speeches etc in Ohio !!

Still no report of country trip
written - about all I do to get
off the week's news!

The bride I got off last winter
came this week & was here for
dinner. She's fat & happy,
there 2 weeks. I surely have
put on fat a lot! I'll soon
diet unless I go to the country
if so that will be diet enough.
Have been splurging on oil
dressing on lettuce (washed in
alcohol) is fat!
TOKYO

14] Am enjoying "The Current Events"
so much + Reader's Digest.

Mr. Hosmer formerly of Musking-
um + now Moody sends me the
monthly! These ever find
me in the country sometimes.

It's ten. I must get to bed!
Get up + review an hr. before
I get up + teacher comes -
but have to get the swashing
etc for week started.

Mite - etc dearest ones, don't
be too alarmed about bandits
or my little lonely minute!
I'm well + happy + just
hope the same for all my
precious family. Warrant the
Elta soon will be there!
Oh, mother bring them to
these!

most lovingly +

sleepily!! Love
any fashion I have
nots! What shall I
make over or change?